GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4183
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2005
INTERNET CONNECTION IN SCHOOLS COLLEGES
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

:-

(a) whether the Government is considering to provide high-speed internet connection to various schools and colleges in every district; and

(b) if so, the time by when the same will be provided to schools and colleges?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) and (b): At present, there is not such proposal with the Governmetn to provide high-speed internet connection to schools and colleges in every district. However, ERNET India, an autonomous society of Ministry of Communications & IT, Department of IT operates state-of-the-art countrywide education research network for interconnecting and providing interconnectivity to educational institutions, schools and colleges in the country. The connectivity is provided to the institutions including schools and colleges based on the request received from them and payment of bandwidth charges. The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has also launched a new scheme of ICT @ schools during 2004-05. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided to the States/UTs for the computer education and training to students. As per the norms, an amount of Rs.30,000/- per schools is provided for Internet Connectivity to the States/UTs for Government and Government aided Secondary and Sr. Secondary Schools, in addition to ther support like hardware, software, maintenance etc.

Under University Grants Commission - Network Resource Centres (UGC-NRC) scheme, the UGC has provided financial assistance to 2943 colleges for computer & internet connectivity in the Xth Plan.